

**THE MINUTES OF THE
NORFOLK ARCHITECTURAL REVIEW BOARD
MAY 9, 2016**

On May 9, 2016 at 4:00 p.m., a meeting of the Norfolk Architectural Review Board was held in the 10th Floor Conference Room, City Hall Building. Those in attendance were:

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Ms. Gustavson (Chairman), Mr. Thomas, Mr. Rutledge, Mr. Glenn, Ms. Pollard, Mr. Lyall, Mr. Gould, Mr. Klemt, Mr. Hoffler

STAFF:

Ms. McBride, Mr. Newcomb, Ms. Markowski

I. Call to Order

Ms. Gustavson called the meeting to order.

II. Roll call

Mr. Newcomb called the roll. (Quorum present.)

III. Consent Agenda

a. Meeting minutes – April 25, 2016 (**Approved.**)

b. 428 Mowbray Arch – Install a retractable driveway gate

Mr. Lyall asked that the item be removed from the consent agenda.

c. 243 W. Bute Street – Modify a storefront to add a door & business signage

After review of drawings, photographs and detailed specifications, Mr. Klemt made a motion to approve the application as presented. Mr. Glenn seconded the motion. The Board voted aye.

IV. Continued Applications

Design Review

8124 Shore Drive – Villa Marina – New construction mixed-use

Drawings, photographs, site plan and vinyl window sample were presented and Ms. McBride reviewed the application. At the last presentation the Board asked the applicant to provide the following: conceptual information for signage, stormwater management details and a window sample.

Mr. Mason and Mr. Wiegand appeared before the Board. The main entry features for the retail spaces will be on the ends or on the side facing the apartment complex; however, they intend to have some signage at the front facing Shore Drive. The proposed signage is individual letters pinned to a sign band above storefronts and doors. There will be a small monument sign close to Shore Drive to identify the development complex.

The stormwater will be treated with a combination of Filterra drainage inlets, Filterra roof drain units and underground infiltration chambers. All three will be utilized to satisfy the water quality requirements. The area designated for the underground treatment is located in between the apartments and the retail area.

The vinyl double-hung window is Superseal by Sierra Pacific and is more of a commercial grade than a residential grade. The window meets the impact loads that are required for this site location.

Mr. Klemt made a motion to approve the application as presented. Mr. Glenn seconded the motion. The Board voted aye.

V. Certificate of Appropriateness

Ghent Historic District

- a. 428 Mowbray Arch – Install a retractable driveway gate

Drawings, photographs and a partial site plan were presented for review and Ms. McBride reviewed the application. The applicant owns a through lot with the driveway access off of Warren Crescent and it is often mistaken for a driveway that belongs to homes on Warren Crescent. The proposed gate will be made of cedar wood and will be painted charcoal black. The gate is designed to appear as if it is two swinging gates. The automatic retractable gate mechanism will be located inside the existing brick wall and will not be visible from the public right-of-way.

Mr. Lyall noted that the letter says that the gate is designed to hide the shed in the back. He expressed that a wrought iron retractable gate might be more appropriate. He stated that people would still mistake the driveway for a driveway on Warren Crescent, but if the intent is to screen the shed then the appearance of the shed could be improved and a wrought iron gate could be installed that would match the existing pedestrian gate.

Ms. Thomas appeared before the Board. She stated that there is an existing solid wood fence down the east and west sides of the property and that the applicant preferred to have a wooden gate. Ms. Gustavson noted that the Ghent Neighborhood League had no issues with the application and would accept the decision of the Board regarding material.

Mr. Klemt made a motion to approve the application as presented. Mr. Rutledge seconded the motion. Mr. Thomas, Mr. Gould, Ms. Gustavson, Mr. Glenn, Mr. Hoffler, Mr. Klemt and Mr. Rutledge voted aye. Mr. Lyall voted no. Ms. Pollard abstained.

- b. 627 Boissevain Avenue – Install an ADA ramp, gates & window bars
(**Continued.**)

West Freemason Historic District

- a. 243 W. Bute Street – Modify a storefront to add a door & business signage (**Approved on consent.**)
- b. 355 W. Freemason Street – add a four-car attached garage & remove fire escape

Drawings, photographs, material samples and floor plans were presented and Ms. McBride reviewed the application. The applicant recently purchased the property and is in the process of converting the building back to a single-family residence. The property consists of two lots; the lot next door was used as a parking lot and has a walled garden in the rear. The owner would like to build a garage addition on the parking lot area while maintaining the garden with the wall behind.

The addition design gives an appearance of a detached four-car garage with a breezeway connection. There are four bays; however, it will be a three-car garage. An existing staircase that was used as a fire exit will be removed. New panels, dormers, doors, windows, railing and stoop will be added. Other renovations include an elevator which services the ground floor up through to the attic level. Materials

include: brick, slate, painted wood columns, wood carriage doors, French doors, metal roof, bronze sconces and hardware, and wood clad windows with integral light technology (ILT) grilles.

Ms. Pollard appeared on behalf of the applicant and stated that they will be restoring the slate roof and all the wood windows on the main house, as well as repointing as necessary with proper mortar mixture. The existing deck will be expanded and a handrail added. Mr. Lyall expressed concern about the plain wall on the garage addition that faces the adjacent property. Ms. Pollard stated that the adjacent neighbor has seen the plans and has expressed no objections. Mr. Rutledge suggested simplifying the dormers on the new addition.

Mr. Rutledge made a motion to approve the application as presented subject to: a) adding some visual interest to the east wall of the garage and b) simplifying the detailing of the dormers facing the street. Mr. Lyall seconded the motion. Mr. Thomas, Mr. Gould, Ms. Gustavson, Mr. Lyall, Mr. Glenn, Mr. Hoffler, Mr. Klemt and Mr. Rutledge voted aye. Ms. Pollard abstained.

Downtown Historic Overlay District

- a. 255-57 Granby Street – St. Germain/Elixia – Outdoor dining encroachment

No action taken. The application was continued.

Drawings and photographs were presented and Ms. McBride reviewed the application. The applicant proposes a small outdoor seating area that will service six patrons and will be shared between two businesses.

City Council recently approved the Complete Streets policy. Part of Complete Streets is maintaining a clear path for pedestrians. The Guidelines haven't been established for Norfolk yet and they are examining different guidelines in different sidewalk depth areas in business districts.

The design for the outdoor seating is similar to what has been in the Arts District at Work Release and The Parlor. The design is an integrated awning, wood shelf and stools. Ms. Thomas appeared before the Board on behalf of the applicant.

The Board asked that the applicant consider moving the outdoor dining back 5 to 6 inches; and to explore an alternative placement. Mr. Lyall observed that the proposed 9½ inches for a servable shelf is a little narrow.

- b. 245 Granby Street – Lucé – Outdoor dining encroachment
(Continued.)

VI. Design Review (None)

VII. Landmark Designation

- a. 6651 Talbot Hall Court – Talbot Hall Landmark Historic District

Ms. McBride stated that this will be the Board’s first landmark designation and suggested establishing elements of design that are separate from the general Design Guidelines. A committee was formed that will include Mr. Rutledge, Mr. Klemt and Mr. Thomas will meet to discuss design elements.

Ms. Neff, a resident from the Talbot Park neighborhood, asked if there is a timeline for the landmark designation. Ms. McBride added that it will not take a long time; the committee will meet a few times and once the design elements are in place they will move forward. Ms. Neff also expressed concern about the safety of the building in the meantime. Ms. Pollard stated that there may be some on-site maintenance but that they would report any activities to Ms. McBride in advance.

Mr. Donegan, President of the Talbot Park Civic League, stated that the civic league had not voted on the application because they are waiting for more information. Mr. Newcomb stated that the item is on the City Planning Commission’s agenda, but in order to go to the City Planning Commission there needs to be a recommendation from the Architectural Review Board. If the recommendation is not available by the end of May, it will be removed from the City Planning Commission’s agenda.

VIII. Discussion (None)

IX. Public Comments

Mr. Perrault, 950 Hanover Avenue, addressed the Board with regard to 355 W. Freemason Street. He stated that there is an opinion held by some from the Historic Preservation establishment that replicating an historic style is unacceptable. He

stressed to the Board that there are others who are of the opinion that when a replication is done with appropriate materials and craftsmanship it can be supported.

X. New Business

- a. State & National Register Nomination

Virginia National Bank Headquarters Historic District – Public meeting: May 12th, 2016 at 6:00 p.m., location is 1 Commercial Place, first floor conference room.

The next Listen and Learn session will be May 23rd, 2016 at 3:30 p.m.

XI. Old Business (None)

**XII. Approval of the minutes: April 25, 2016
(Approved on consent.)**

XIII. Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dolores R. Cloud

Dolores R. Cloud, Deputy City Clerk/Stenographic Reporter